P/R326

FAO Fisheries Report No. 326 **FIP/R326**

LIBRARY
MAR 1 8 1986
National Marine Fisheries Service
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawaii

Report of the Twenty-First Session of the

INDO-PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (IPFC)

Kuala Lumpur, 10-13 December 1984

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE INDO-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10-15 December 1984

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Rome 1985

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

M-40
ISBN 92-5-102262-3

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owner. Applications for such permission, with a statement of the purpose and extent of the reproduction, should be addressed to the Director, Publications Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy.

© FAO 1985

PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

This is the final version of the report as approved by the Twenty-First Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission.

ABSTRACT

This is the final version of the report of the twenty-first Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC), held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 10 to 15 December 1984. Major topics discussed were the trends in fisheries in the region, the follow-up to the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, matters related to functions and responsibilities of IPFC, proposals for future inter-sessional activities, and subjects for symposia at future sessions. A list of the main recommendations of the session is included as Appendix G.

Distribution:

Participants in the session
Members of the Commission
Other interested nations and international organizations
FAO Fisheries Department
Fishery Officers in FAO Regional Offices

For bibliographic purposes this document should be cited as follows:

FAO, 1985. Report of the twenty-first session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10-13 December 1984. FAO Fish.Rep., (326):32 p.

CONTENTS

	Paragraphs
OPENING OF THE SESSION	1 - 2
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION	3
INTER-SESSIONAL REPORT OF THE IPFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	4 - 6
REVIEW OF MAJOR FISHERIES IN THE REGION	7 - 78
(a) Marine	7 - 23
(b) Tuna	24 - 46
(c) Inland fisheries	47 - 57
(d) Aquaculture	58 - 64
(e) Fish utilization and marketing	65 - 78
PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	79 - 83
REGIONAL FISHERY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOW UP TO THE FAO WORLD CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	84 - 92
SPECIAL ISSUES ARISING FROM THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE INDO-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION	93 - 101
(a) Matters related to the functions and responsibilities of IPFC	93 - 94
(b) Implications for IPFC of possible changes in IOFC's terms of reference	95 - 98
(c) Subjects for symposia at future sessions	99 - 101
ANY OTHER MATTERS	102
ELECTION OF OFFICERS	103 - 104
DATE AND PLACE OF THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION	105 - 106
ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	107

		Page
APPENDIX A	List of Delegates and Observers	15
B	Agenda and Timetable	21
C	List of Documents	22
D	Address of welcome by Mr Tengku Dato' Ubaidillah Chairman of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC)	24
E	Statement of Mr J.E. Carroz, Assistant Director-General, (Fisheries Department)	25
F	Inaugural address by Dr Goh Cheng Teik, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Malaysia	29
G	Summary of Main Recommendations	31

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Twenty-first Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC) was held at the Holiday Inn, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 10 to 15 December 1984. The session was attended by representatives of eleven member nations of the Commission, by the representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and by observers from three intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. A list of the delegates and observers is given in Appendix A to this report.

2. At the official opening of the session, the Commission was welcomed by the Chairman of IPFC, Tengku Dato' Ubaidillah bin Abdul Kadir, Director-General of Fisheries of Malaysia. His address of welcome is given in Appendix D. The statement by Mr J.E. Carroz, Assistant Director-General (Fisheries Department), FAO, is given in Appendix E. The session was declared open, on behalf of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture of Malaysia, by the Honourable Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr Goh Cheng Teik. His inaugural address is at Appendix F.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

3. The Commission considered the agenda submitted in document IPFC/84/1 and adopted it as given in Appendix B. The documents placed before the Commission are listed in Appendix C.

INTER-SESSIONAL REPORT OF THE IPFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4. The Secretariat presented to the Commission the report of the Sixty-first Session of the IPFC Executive Committee held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 10 and 11 October 1984. The main items on the Committee's agenda were: (i) follow-up to the Twentieth Session of IPFC; (ii) follow-up to the Sixtieth Session of the Executive Committee; and (iii) the activities of IPFC subsidiary bodies.

5. In regard to "Follow-up to the Twentieth Session of IPFC", the Committee had expressed its satisfaction with the fact that action had been taken by FAO on almost all the recommendations/decisions of the twentieth session and the steps taken were described in document IPFC/84/Inf.12.

6. With respect to the other two main items on the agenda of the Committee, the Commission noted that most of the points raised in the report were covered under other items of the Commission's agenda and decided that these points should be considered under the relevant agenda items.

REVIEW OF MAJOR FISHERIES IN THE REGION

(a) Marine

7. In presenting document IPFC/84/3 on "Issues in Marine Fisheries Development and Management", the Secretariat highlighted the following major points:

(i) many inshore and nearshore stocks, especially those of demersal fish and prawns/shrimps, had been heavily fished and in many cases the stocks had been over-exploited resulting in a decline in stock abundance, especially in species of commercial value, a decrease in the number of larger-sized fish and ultimately in the decline of catch per-unit-effort and even of the total production;

(ii) this situation was aggravated by conflicts between the small-scale and industrial fisheries common in many countries;

(iii) cephalopod and small coastal pelagic fish stocks had not generally been fully utilized. A substantially larger catch could be expected by introducing or expanding suitable fishing methods to exploit these resources;

(iv) many stocks were being shared by two or more countries. Studies and arrangements to promote the rational utilization of these resources were urgently required; and

(v) the data/information were generally insufficient in respect of the above issues. Further intensified surveys and studies were urgently required for the purpose of making explicit analyses.

8. With regard to fisheries management measures and socio-economic aspects, four major points were raised. First, it was pointed out that the trend of rising real prices of fish was a critical factor that required attention. There was evidence, in many countries of the region, that the prices of fish, with the exception of certain tunas, were rising more rapidly than those of other foods and also more rapidly than the costs of fishing. This was due to the fact that demand was increasing with growth in population and *per caput* incomes but that supplies were limited by natural conditions. This trend would continue well into the future since it had been estimated that, by the year 2000, the demand for fish in Asian countries would be in the order of eleven million tons in excess of the likely supply.

9. The rise in real prices had several significant effects. One was that increased pressures were being placed on limited stocks leading to greater urgency for the adoption of management measures. A second effect was that low-income consumers would have more difficulty in meeting their protein needs and would have to turn to lower-quality or less-preferred species. Rising real prices also tended to obscure the evidence of over-fishing since the total values of catches might continue to increase, even if the quantities did not.

10. A second and related point was that there had generally been a shift in the composition of catches, and that this shift was usually away from high-priced and toward low-priced species. Thus, the total quantities might be rising without increasing the overall contribution to the economy.

11. Reference was made to the different techniques for regulating fishing effort, and to important examples in the region. These included the fishing licensing programme in Malaysia, the system of community inshore rights being introduced in Thailand, and various management measures being used in Australia.

12. It was also pointed out that the rising real prices of fishery products were a source of increased conflicts. The resolution of conflicts was difficult, because it required decisions on the distribution of wealth. However, once those decisions were made, they provided the basis for adopting effective management measures.

13. The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Resources Research and Development (SCORRAD) noted that the presentation of the subject by the Secretariat covered many of the matters that had been discussed by SCORRAD at its fourth session. The discussions there had focussed on the demersal resources of the region, which were in general heavily exploited as exemplified by the situation in the Gulf of Thailand. An exception was the area adjacent to Burma where they were only lightly exploited. The discussions had also pointed to the possibility that, because of species changes and interactions, the yield curve for demersal fish might be, to a first approximation, flat-topped so that even when the total catch was still high, there could be severe overfishing in economic or social terms and thus an urgent need for management. Another point that had emerged was the fact that in order to manage badly depleted stocks, measures would have to be applied to overcome the situation, such as the use of artificial reefs to obstruct trawling or closed seasons during periods when small recruit fish are abundant.

14. The Commission noted that technical assistance on resources issues to be provided by FAO in the immediate future comprised the two Regular Programme activities relating to Resources Review and Mapping in Southeast Asia, commenced in October 1984, and the FAO/SEAFDEC Workshop on Shared Stocks in Southeast Asia, scheduled to be held in Bangkok from 18 to 22 February 1985.

15. The Commission also noted that many of the technical matters involved in the issues presented might well be covered by the symposium to be organized in conjunction with its twenty-second session.

16. The Commission recommended that:

(i) the construction of artificial reefs should be one of the important subjects to be studied further in detail, for the purpose of re-stocking depleted stocks and the protection of spawning and nursery grounds in inshore waters. FAO should investigate the technical aspects and explore the possibility of holding a regional workshop or training course on this subject;

(ii) in view of the importance of implementing suitable regulatory measures to reduce the total fishing intensity in inshore waters and the extreme difficulties involved in doing so, FAO should follow-up this matter on a continuing basis and provide member countries with such technical assistance as they may request; and

(iii) since the success of the planned Workshop on Shared Stocks was of great importance, member countries should make every effort to send suitable participants.

17. During the discussion, emphasis was placed on the importance of examining the social and economic aspects of fisheries as well as the biological ones. In this regard, the critical problem of providing alternative employment opportunities for fishermen was stressed. Limiting entry into a fishery would be difficult if the people in fishing communities had no other sources of income. Any attempt to reduce the number of inshore fishermen would require the development of jobs in other sectors, in offshore fishing or in aquaculture.

18. It was pointed out that administrators had difficulty in accepting limited entry schemes when jobs were scarce, but even if jobs were not scarce, it was difficult to convince administrators of the need for controls. The question was raised as to whether income levels or catches per-unit-of-effort would be more useful as evidence of the need for action. Although both measures might be desirable, it was suggested that testing and demonstrating management techniques under controlled conditions and on a limited scale might be the most effective means for stimulating the adoption of fisheries management.

19. The Commission, therefore, recommended that member countries identify areas or specific communities where pilot management schemes could be adopted and, where needed, request FAO for assistance in the formulation and implementation of the schemes.

20. Delegations reported on different management techniques used in their countries. An issue raised with regard to each of these was whether fishing privileges should be transferable or not. It was noted that, with transfers, the privileges acquired high value. Unless these were taxed by some means, the values accrued to the fishermen who acquired the initial licences. Where goals were more social than economic, it was suggested that the licences should not be transferable and that the privileges could be allocated by community groups.

21. On the other hand, it was noted that such allocations required very precise and carefully formulated criteria and that this could be avoided by allowing licence transfer. In addition, transferability permitted fishermen to leave the industry if they wished and receive some benefit from their equity in the vessel and the licence. In certain situations, it was felt that transferability was unavoidable.

22. The Secretariat indicated that FAO was collecting and publishing case studies on fisheries management in different countries. The Commission felt that this was a very useful activity and recommended that it be continued and enlarged.

23. As issues connected with fisheries management, particularly in multispecies fisheries, were very complex, the Commission recommended that FAO hold a workshop on the subject, which should include case studies and deal *inter-alia* with the problems of transferability and the need for finding alternative employment opportunities.

(b) Tuna

24. The Commission noted that significant developments had taken place over the last few years in the world tuna fishing industry. The price of the fish had been declining drastically; the geographical distribution of the catches had changed notably, with large catch increases in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific due to a shift of industrial

purse seine fleets from the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific. The major tuna landing places had changed too and an increasing number of coastal countries were developing their fishing and processing activities or were planning to do so.

25. As a result of extended national jurisdiction over fisheries, it had been extremely difficult in the past few years for tuna scientists to gain access to detailed catch and effort statistics for stock assessment purposes. Governments, as well as tuna industries, were sometimes reluctant to release detailed catch and effort statistics because of the use that could be made of this information, e.g., in access negotiations.

26. The UNDP-funded Indo-Pacific Tuna Development and Management Programme (IPTP) was established in 1982, mainly to set up a regional tuna fisheries data base for the Indo-Pacific area in support of management and development decisions. A review of the activities of the Programme was presented to the Commission. IPTP had successfully established a system for collecting data on a regional basis and had assembled historical data for the Indo-Pacific area. The Japan Trust Fund Project attached to IPTP had been particularly active in obtaining data from developing coastal States with significant tuna fisheries. Experts from this project had provided considerable assistance to tuna research in the Philippines and Indonesia.

27. Due to difficulties in obtaining data from some distant-water fishing nations, IPTP had been obliged to modify its approach and had attempted to identify those key data elements which were essential for preliminary stock assessment and planning for regional development and management. These were the data necessary to identify trends in catch and national participation in the fishery, and which would alert countries to changes in the fishery and the possible need for further detailed investigations.

28. The Commission reviewed the regional mechanisms set up by FAO as a framework for international cooperation in tuna fisheries in the Indo-Pacific area and considered possible improvements in the field of statistics, scientific research and management.

(i) Statistics

29. Discussions focussed on the role of IPTP and on the difficulties faced by this Programme in obtaining detailed data from some distant-water fishing countries. The Chairman of SCORRAD mentioned that the data presently available were inadequate for good stock assessment purposes. Indeed, with the extension of national jurisdiction by coastal States, the situation had deteriorated markedly in the last few years. This trend coincided with the arrival in the region of large purse seine fleets, which increased the need for continued monitoring of the stocks.

30. The Commission unanimously recognized that a reliable data base was essential for good stock assessment and an appeal was made to the countries concerned to provide the required data.

31. The delegation of France indicated that French statistics would be made available after the delay normally required for compiling and processing the data. The delegation of Australia referred to recent discussions between the South Pacific countries and a number of distant-water fishing nations, organized under the aegis of the South Pacific Commission, to consider improvement of the data collection in the region.

32. The delegation of the United States of America mentioned that, at the present time, the US Government had no legal authority to require its distant-water fishing fleet to provide information on its activities. Legal authority to compel the industry to provide comprehensive data would require the existence of an international fishing agreement to which the United States was a party. Such an agreement should include a provision ensuring access for the US fleet under agreed terms and conditions before legislation could be implemented requiring the provision of data. The delegation of Japan explained that releasing statistics could create difficulties to the Japanese fishing industry due to misinterpretation by users when negotiating fishing agreements with coastal countries.

33. The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission's experience in this field, which was described to the meeting by the Director of Investigations of this Commission, was noted with particular interest.

34. It was recognized that confidentiality regarding data was essential and that the question should be solved in a realistic and practical manner. In this connection, delegations warmly commended IPTP for the important word accomplished so far.

35. The Commission also considered various options for adjusting the activities of the Programme and defining more clearly its geographical coverage. The following options were envisaged:

(i) continue the project as it is for the Indo-Pacific area;

(ii) close the project at the end of 1984;

(iii) revise the project to reflect realistic data expectations, delimit the area to include the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, and extend external support until 1987; and

(iv) revise the project to reflect realistic data expectations, restrict the area to the Indian Ocean, and extend external support until 1987.

36. After an exchange of views among delegations, the Commission felt that option (iii) was the most practical and satisfactory one, especially bearing in mind that no other mechanism for data collection and analysis existed for Southeast Asia. If necessary, external support for the Programme should be envisaged until 1989.

37. In reply to a question raised by the delegation of Sri Lanka, the Secretariat informed the Commission that the FAO Fisheries Department had not proposed and was not proposing to move the IPTP Headquarters from Colombo. It reiterated the appreciation of FAO for the hosting facilities provided by the Government of Sri Lanka.

38. The delegation of Japan described the assistance already provided by its country to IPTP and informed the Commission that it was envisaged to continue and even expand this assistance. A final decision was expected from the competent Japanese administration before the end of this year. The UNDP representative referred to the financial difficulties being faced by the Programme which had resulted in the curtailing of certain activities originally planned for IPTP. Without any commitment at this stage, he anticipated a rather receptive attitude from UNDP for the continuation of the project.

39. The Commission extended its sincere thanks to the Government of Japan and to UNDP for their very valuable support to IPTP.

40. The Secretariat mentioned that every effort would be made to use, to the extent possible, the resources of the Regular Programme in support of the continued activities of IPTP.

(ii) Research and management

41. The Chairman of SCORRAD drew the attention of the Commission to some scientific problems identified by this body at its fourth session and to the results of the *Ad Hoc* Workshop on Tuna Stock Assessment held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in August 1984. He referred in particular to the need to monitor tuna stocks on a continuing basis and to carry out stock assessment. The sharp increase of purse-seining in the Western Pacific could have serious consequences for other tuna fisheries, in particular long-line and coastal fisheries. These interactions were not yet well-known and should be carefully studied. The development of fishing based on the utilization of fish aggregating devices and drifting logs had resulted in the capture of large quantities of small tunas. The biological and economic consequences of these new techniques needed further investigation.

42. The Commission noted that its Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna had been given special responsibilities with regard to scientific research, stock evaluation and management. On the other hand, under the 1948 Agreement establishing IPFC as amended in 1976, the Commission itself could recommend conservation and management measures.

43. One delegation expressed some doubts about the appropriateness of using IPFC as a management body for tuna stocks in the region. In its view, the geographic area serviced by the Commission was not defined clearly enough and its responsibilities were covering too many aspects of fisheries, so that it would be preferable to create an organization based on a new treaty and dealing only with tuna.

44. Other delegations stressed the need to improve the present situation. They suggested that meetings of specialists should be convened to carry out stock assessment and to study particular scientific and technical problems in preparation for the sessions of the Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna. The Commission agreed that the Committee, which had not met since 1980, should meet before the next session of the Commission and, thereafter, as regularly as the situation demanded. In view of the low degree of interaction between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific tuna stocks, it was felt unnecessary to continue the practice of convening the Special Committee jointly with the IOFC Committee on Management of Indian Ocean Tuna.

(iii) Global Tuna Conference

45. The Chairman of SCORRAD drew the attention of the Commission to the discussions which had taken place during the *Ad Hoc* Workshop on Tuna Stock Assessment, in August 1984, on the opportunity of holding a Global Tuna Conference, as suggested by a meeting of experts held in La Jolla in January 1984. The Director of Investigations of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission informed delegations that he had already contacted a number of individual scientists and institutions which could have a potential interest in such a meeting. He reported that the sponsorship of FAO had been suggested by many of his correspondents.

46. The Commission noted that the nature and scope of such a meeting had still to be more clearly defined. It was suggested that interested countries could bring the matter to the attention of the Committee on Fisheries at its next session to be held in Rome in April 1985.

(c) Inland fisheries

47. Following a detailed presentation by the Secretariat of the report of the second session of the IPFC Working Party on Inland Fisheries (document IPFC/84/6), the Chairman drew attention to the report of the Sixty-first Session of the IPFC Executive Committee, which had recommended that IPFC should assign priorities to the recommendations of the Working Party meeting. The Executive Committee itself had stressed the importance of the management of mangrove areas and coastal lagoons and considered it to be a priority issue.

48. In the discussion that followed, the view was expressed that the latest developments in the fish disease situation in Southeast Asia showed that the disease was a major threat to the inland fisheries of the region. The natural waters of North and Northeast Thailand, as well as those of Burma, the Lao PDR and Kampuchea were affected now by a serious outbreak. Urgent action by FAO was requested to implement the fish epidemologic survey planned under an inter-country TCP project. FAO assistance was also required in establishing a regional fish quarantine system.

49. One delegation felt that the planned workshop on the utilization of inland fishery resources of the Pacific island countries should cover both freshwater and brackishwater impoundments.

50. The importance of strengthening statistical data collection on inland fisheries and aquaculture was emphasized as a matter of high priority.

51. The need for a reliable statistical data collection system for evolving a suitable methodology of floodplain fishery management was also recommended. A major problem in this respect was the conflicting interest of fisheries and rice production, as the latter was increasingly dependent on the use of pesticides. Possible accumulation of pesticide residues in fish, and its possible harmful effect on human-beings, required more attention.

52. More studies were required to define clearly the extent to which mangrove areas could be transformed into shrimp culture farms.

53. The delegation of Bangladesh reported on successes achieved in increasing the production of oxbow lakes by the introduction of proper stocking and management techniques. The artificial stocking of rivers was another subject requiring study.

54. Another area identified as needing attention was the lack of suitable legislation governing the leasing of lagoons and other inland waters to private farmers.

55. The proposal of the Working Party regarding the preparation of an inventory of existing and potential fish species for introduction and stocking of reservoirs also received support during the discussion.

56. On the basis of its discussions, the Commission agreed that the following recommendations of the Inland Fisheries Working Party be given priority:

- development of guidelines for the management of coastal lagoons and mangrove areas;
- improvement of inland fisheries statistical data collection and analyses;
- development of suitable methodologies for floodplain, riverine fisheries and lake management;
- assistance to member countries in the formulation of new legislation for inland fisheries management;
- preparation of an inventory of existing and potential fish species for introduction and stocking.

57. The Commission endorsed the proposal that the topic for the next joint session of the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Working Parties should be the management of coastal lagoons and mangrove areas.

(d) Aquaculture

58. The Secretariat briefed the Commission on the activities of the IPFC Working Party on Aquaculture, with special reference to the recommendations of its sixth session held in January 1984 in New Delhi.

59. The Chairman of SCORRAD drew attention to the discussions held at the Fourth Session of SCORRAD, which had commended the report of the Working Party to IPFC for detailed consideration, and had noted that the recommendation dealing with production of manuals should be considered as supplementing rather than duplicating similar manuals already produced by other organizations.

60. Attention was also drawn to the report of the Sixty-first Session of IPFC Executive Committee, which had supported the recommendation of the Working Party in regard to the clarification of the fish disease situation in Southeast Asia and had noted with appreciation the formulation of an inter-country TCP project by FAO on this subject. The Committee had considered that special emphasis should be placed on training in aquaculture and on the improvement of socio-economic data relevant to aquaculture development planning. The Committee had also suggested that IPFC should allocate priorities for the various recommendations of the Working Party.

61. The Commission was informed about the inter-country TCP project, which had been recently approved by FAO and was awaiting endorsement by at least three participating countries. In the context of this project, an interdisciplinary team consisting of an epidemologist, a virologist, a bacteriologist, a parasitologist and a toxicologist was to be sent to the affected countries (Burma, Indonesia, Lao P.D.R., Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) in order to collect all available information and possibly samples for further laboratory investigations. Based on the findings of the above mission and on the recommendations of a sub-regional expert consultation also included in the frame of the project, the preparation of a plan of action was envisaged, with appropriate division of future tasks between national, regional and international institutions, with a view to verify the causative agent, develop efficient curative and preventive treatment and

institute quarantine measures. Representatives of the interested governments were requested to assist in expediting the endorsement of the project.

62. The Secretariat also informed the Commission about recent developments regarding the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia (NACA). The project's Advisory Committee, which had met from 3 to 6 December 1984 in Bhubaneswar, India, had been advised that, according to a recent UNDP evaluation mission, the project had fulfilled its original objectives with great success. The UNDP was giving favourable consideration to providing funding support for the project at its present level for at least the next two years. The representatives of China, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines had also announced the willingness of their governments to provide financial support for the core activities of NACA from 1985, while representatives of Sri Lanka and Thailand had expressed the hope that their governments would provide support from 1986, and India had indicated the possibility of such support after the phasing out of UNDP's core funding.

63. In the ensuing debate, international assistance aimed at the clarification of the fish disease situation was welcomed. Support was expressed for the recommendation of the Working Party regarding the FAO/WHO cooperative research on the possible transfer of diseases and parasitoses in certain integrated systems. The organization of a regional workshop on aquaculture engineering was considered very timely in view of the engineering problems of coastal aquaculture. The recommendations of the Working Party related to training for extension also received support. One delegation emphasized the need to give more attention to shellfish culture, due to its outstanding importance in producing cheap protein food.

64. On the basis of its discussions, the Commission accorded priority to the following recommendations of the Working Party on Aquaculture:

- epidemologic survey of a fish disease spreading in Southeast Asia;
- strengthening and diversification of regional training activities with special emphasis on training for extension;
- intensifying socio-economic studies to assist aquaculture development planning;
- organization of a regional workshop on aquaculture engineering;
- strengthening the development and transfer of coastal aquaculture techniques within the region (including shellfish mariculture);
- establishment of a self-supporting mechanism for the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia, and acceleration of the linkage of National Aquaculture Centres with the Network;
- conducting FAO/WHO cooperative research on possible transfer of diseases and parasitoses in certain integrated systems.

(e) Fish utilization and marketing

65. The Commission took note of the report on the progress of the Marketing Information and Advisory Services for Fish Products in the Asia and Pacific Region (INFOFISH). Its first phase, completed in February 1984, had been funded exclusively by donor contributions. During its second phase lasting until December 1986, it would be jointly financed by contributions from member countries, by project revenue from sales of publications and services, and by continued donor country contributions, although on a declining scale.

66. The Commission noted the steps taken to establish INFOFISH as an intergovernmental organization. Reference was made to the statement included in the Programme of Action No. IV approved at the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development: "In the long term, the regional services should be financially self-supporting and function as intergovernmental organizations or be affiliated to suitable existing regional organizations" (paragraph 35, p. 47 of the Report of the World Fisheries Conference).

67. The delegations of several INFOFISH member countries expressed appreciation of the project's services to their fishing industries. In commending the INFOFISH activities, the delegation of the United States of America supported the proposed participation of the United States Food and Drug Administration in the product quality training programme of the project.

68. In reviewing the funding situation of INFOFISH, the Commission underlined the importance of obtaining a certain amount of support from donor countries. The representative of UNDP, referring to the UNDP source of funds for the "mini project" on the promotion of TCDC and ECDC, stated that there was a continued favourable reaction to the project's activities.

69. The Commission endorsed the request of the Advisory and Coordinating Committee of INFOFISH that a Conference of Plenipotentiaries be convened to adopt an agreement for the establishment of an intergovernmental organization for marketing information and advisory services for fishery products in the Asia and Pacific region (INFOFISH).

70. The need for improving the utilization and quality control of fish products in Asian and Pacific countries was brought to the attention of the Commission through the report of the Sixth Session of the IPFC Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing and the report of the Fourth Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea.

71. The Commission emphasized the particular relevance to the region of the Programme of Action No. V approved by the FAO World Fisheries Conference: the Promotion of the Role of Fisheries in Alleviating Undernutrition. The main objective was to reduce waste and ensure that fishery resources were rationally utilized so as to make the greatest possible contribution to food supplies for the benefit of the poorest and weakest sections of the community. A multidisciplinary approach, including expertise in technology, socio-economics, nutrition, public health and fisheries, was required to achieve this objective.

72. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Government of Norway had made funds available for preparatory activities aimed at a long-term programme on all aspects of the supply of low-cost fishery products to the undernourished, and that work had already commenced in several Asian and Pacific countries.

73. The Commission stressed that there was an urgent need to improve quality control and inspection in the region, particularly in relation to the high-valued species which are exported. There was good evidence to show that unit prices offered for products from the region were lower than those for equivalent products from other areas. The reasons were inconsistent quality and the higher probability of rejection.

74. The Commission drew attention to the need for more specific projects that dealt directly with the quality problem at the fishermen level, since the raw material was the principal basis of export trade in fish and fishery products.

75. The Commission agreed that rationalization of standards and their implementation at all levels of the industry would be necessary to improve the situation. Raising the awareness of fishermen, processors and government authorities, coupled with the provision of improved training, were necessary prerequisites.

76. The Commission recommended that INFOFISH, in collaboration with FAO Headquarters, should give increased attention to improving the quality of fish products in the Asian and Pacific region. It also endorsed the recommendation of the Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing that its present long-term programme be retained and expanded to include more effort on quality control and inspection.

77. The Commission noted with appreciation the continued funding support of the Australian Government to the network of cooperation in fish technology and research in the region.

78. The Commission recommended that a Technical Consultation on Fish Technology and Quality Assurance be held in the region in the near future, as part of the effort to improve utilization and quality control.

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

79. The Secretariat reviewed the existing structure of IPFC and its subsidiary bodies and the functions of the latter on the basis of document IPFC/84/Inf.9. The discussions under agenda item 4(b) had pointed to the need to revitalize the IPFC Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna and to have regular meetings on its own rather than jointly with the IOFC Committee on Management of Indian Ocean Tuna. In regard to the Working Parties, the foregoing discussions had shown that the Working Parties on Fish Technology and Marketing Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries were doing very useful work and should continue to meet at regular intervals. The views of the Commission were requested concerning the continuance of the IPFC/IOFC Joint Working Party of Experts on Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Fishery Statistics and the Working Party of Experts on Central and Western Pacific Skipjack.

80. The Commission noted that the IPFC/IOFC Joint Working Party of Experts on Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Fishery Statistics had last met in 1978, that it should be possible to finalize discussions of general interest on the methodology of statistics at its scheduled session in May 1985, and that the priority for statistics at present was to provide assistance to individual member countries in establishing national data centres for fisheries. It agreed, therefore, that this Working Party should be abolished after the May 1985 session.

81. The Commission was informed that, since its establishment in 1976, the IPFC Working Party of Experts on Central and Western Pacific Skipjack had met only on one occasion in 1978. As it was in favour of concentrating activities on the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean and in view of the fact that the functions of this Working Party could be covered by the IPFC Committee on Management of Indian Ocean Tuna supplemented, if necessary, by *Ad Hoc* consultations, the Commission agreed that this Working Party also should be abolished.

82. When reviewing its structure, the Commission felt that consideration should be given to the establishment of a group to carry out stock assessment work on tuna, which had also been recommended by the fourth session of SCORRAD. The Commission agreed that this matter might be further examined at the next meeting of the IPFC Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna and a recommendation made to the Twenty-second Session of the Commission.

83. The Commission noted the information given in document IPFC/84/10 in respect of the sessions proposed for the next biennium 1986-87, subject to the approval of the Twenty-third Session of the FAO Conference, with the following qualifications;

(i) the IPFC Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna would meet separately and not jointly with the IOFC Committee on Management of Indian-Ocean Tuna, possibly in December 1986;

(ii) the meeting of the seventh session of the IPFC/IOFC Joint Working Party of Experts on Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Fishery Statistics proposed for May 1987 would not take place, since the Working Party would be abolished after its sixth session in May 1985;

(iii) the Sixty-second and Sixty-third Sessions of the IPFC Executive Committee would take place in September/October 1985 and September/October 1986, as recommended by the Sixty-first Session of the Executive Committee; and

(iv) the Twenty-second Session of IPFC and symposium would take place in February 1987, as recommended by the Sixty-first Session of the Executive Committee.

REGIONAL FISHERY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOW UP TO THE FAO WORLD CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

84. The Commission considered this item on the basis of documents IPFC/84/11, 12 and 13 and of additional information provided by the Secretariat.

85. Appreciation was expressed by delegations for the initiative taken by the Director-General of FAO in convening the World Fisheries Conference at such an opportune time. Reference was made to recent developments affecting world fisheries, for example, the adoption in 1982 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in which the concept of exclusive economic zones was an essential element as regards fisheries; the levelling off in world fish catches during the past decade; the widening gap between the supply of and demand for food fish; and the rising cost in harvesting production and management, together with increasing prices for fish products in relation to other food commodities.

86. It was felt that the Conference had definitely created an awareness of the present and potential role of fisheries, and of the contribution they could make to national self-sufficiency in food production and toward food security. It had also attracted the attention of national authorities at the highest level and of international institutions to the special needs and problems of the fisheries sector.

87. The Commission welcomed the endorsement by the World Fisheries Conference of a Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development and the adoption of five Programmes of Action designed to assist developing countries, mostly at regional and subregional levels, to increase their food production and improve their individual and collective self-reliance in fisheries.

88. The Commission considered that the Programmes of Action provided a comprehensive and coherent framework for international development assistance in the field of fisheries by multilateral and bilateral donors. Delegations from developed countries indicated that they would be guided by these Programmes when planning and implementing their technical cooperation projects in fisheries. The Commission noted with satisfaction that consultations had already been initiated with bilateral and multilateral donor agencies and financing institutions and that discussions were being held with governments regarding offers of collaboration made at the World Fisheries Conference. Of the estimated annual funding requirements of US$ 15 million indicated in the report of the Conference, about two-thirds had already been committed or agreed to in principle by some donors for the implementation of the Programmes of Action in 1985. The delegation of Japan stated that the basic policy of its country was to provide technical cooperation on a bilateral basis, but that it was considering making a contribution to selected FAO field projects in follow-up to the World Fisheries Conference and that proposals to this effect were being studied by the Finance Ministry. The delegation of the United Kingdom also indicated that its country had a largely bilaterally-oriented assistance programme, but that it would endeavour to influence those multilateral agencies to which it belonged so as to ensure that the results of the World Fisheries Conference were taken into account.

89. The Commission then reviewed the Programmes of Action, with particular reference to the sectoral and geographical components of interest to the region. In doing so, it took into account the recommendations made and the priorities established by the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea at its third and fourth sessions. In addition to the proposals already made under other items of the agenda, especially with respect to quality control and inspections systems, fisheries management techniques, assessment of shared stocks, and the extension and strengthening of the Indo-Pacific Tuna Development and Management Programme, the Commission agreed that certain activities should be provided for or expanded. Particular reference was made to advise on monitoring,control and surveillance; training of scientists and administrators for suitable periods; assistance in the development of flood-plain fisheries and aquaculture; and the use of the research vessel DR FRIDTJOF NANSEN for the region in 1986. It also agreed that Programme of Action II on small-scale fisheries development should include a component for the South China Sea area.

90. The Commission gave some consideration to the resolutions adopted by the World Fisheries Conference on specific aspects of fisheries management and development. As regards the promotion of fish in the campaign against malnutrition and the role of fish in food aid, the Commission noted that the collaboration of the Fisheries Department with the World Food Programme was being intensified. Focal points had been established within the World Food Programme and FAO to identify, particularly in developing countries, sources of fishery products suitable for use in food-aid programmes. An informal Task Force of the Food Policy and Nutrition Division and of the Fisheries Department of FAO, with the

occasional participation of the World Food Programme, was currently reviewing fishery development projects to strengthen their nutritional impact. It was also advising on the nutritional aspects of Programme of Action V.

91. The Commission paid particular attention to the resolution concerning the role of the fisherman. Under this resolution, the Director-General of FAO was invited to adopt Fishermen and Fishing Communities as a theme for World Food Day 1986, and to consider the feasibility of proclaiming an International Year of the Fisherman and a World Fisheries Day. It was informed that the Council of FAO had reviewed this matter at its eighty-sixth session in November 1984. The Council had agreed with the World Fisheries Conference that Fishermen and Fishing Communities should be a theme for World Food Day in 1986. As regards the possible proclamation of an International Year of the Fisherman and of a World Fisheries Day, the Council had noted the criteria and the procedures laid down in this respect by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Some members of the Council had encouraged FAO to pursue the matter further through appropriate channels, bearing in mind the financial and programme implications. Other members had considered that the highest priority should be given to the effective implementation of those elements of the Strategy and Programmes of Action which related to the improvement of the standard of living of fishermen and their families.

92. The delegation of Sri Lanka stated that the Honourable Minister of Fisheries of its country had proposed the declaration of an International Year of the Fisherman to the World Fisheries Conference, both in recognition of the important role played by fishermen in providing protein food and as a means to improve their living standard. It expressed the hope that it would be possible to implement this resolution of the World Fisheries Conference in the near future.

SPECIAL ISSUES ARISING FROM THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE INDO-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION

(a) Matters related to the functions and responsibilities of IPFC

93. The Commission was reminded that, at its previous session in Bali, it had discussed the conditions under which recommendations embodying management measures should be implemented by member countries, with particular reference to the "objection procedure" followed in the case of other regional fishery bodies. It had then agreed that the agenda of its twenty-first session should include an item on this question.

94. The objection procedure was outlined by the Secretariat. The United States delegation favoured its adoption, while other delegations noted that any management measures needed to be based on reliable data, the collection and analysis of which should constitute a first priority for the Commission. In their opinion, the adoption of the objection procedure was therefore premature. The Commission agreed that this question could still be taken up at a later session, once the above prerequisite had been met. Meanwhile, the method of consensus followed so far by IPFC constituted a sufficient guarantee for the implementation of recommendations formulated by the Commission.

(b) Implications for IPFC of possible changes in IOFC's terms of reference

95. The Commission was informed that under its present terms of reference, the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission (IOFC) was responsible only for marine fisheries. At its last session in 1982, it had discussed a suggestion from its Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal that inland fisheries and aquaculture should be included in its terms of reference. The steps necessary to amend the IOFC Statutes had to be taken by IOFC itself and the Council of FAO, which would probably request the advice of the Committee on Fisheries. However, it had been agreed in 1982 that the implications for IPFC's responsibilities of this suggested change should be brought to the attention of the Commission at its twenty-first session.

96. It was recalled that, with the exception of the Maldives, all the Bay of Bengal countries were also members of IPFC and were presently cooperating on inland fisheries and aquaculture matters in two IPFC subsidiary bodies: the Working Party on Aquaculture and the Working Party of Experts on Inland Fisheries. Experts from all these countries had actually participated very actively in the meetings of the two working parties earlier this year, together with experts from Australia, China, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore

and the United Kingdom (Hong Kong). In view of the exchange of experience and expertise, the IPFC Working Parties represented very valuable fora for technical cooperation between developing countries in the Indo-Pacific area. It was also pointed out that African countries bordering the Indian Ocean, as well as island countries in the Southwest Indian Ocean, were already serviced by the FAO Committee for Inland Fisheries of Africa.

97. The Chairman of SCORRAD emphasized the great interest expressed by his Committee in the work performed by the two IPFC Working Parties at their last session and expressed the wish that IPFC should not reduce its activities in inland fisheries and aquaculture. Several delegations considered that for the best utilization of available staff and financial resources, it was essential to avoid duplication and overlapping.

98. The delegation of Sri Lanka reiterated the view it had expressed at the last session of IOFC that it would be preferable to include inland fisheries in the terms of reference of IOFC with a view to formalizing any informal arrangements now existing in this field.

(c) Subjects for symposia at future sessions

99. The Commission considered possible subjects for the symposium to be held in conjunction with the Twenty-second Session of IPFC on the basis of the recommendation made in this regard by the Fourth Session of SCORRAD, which had been endorsed by the Sixty-first Session of the Executive Committee. The subject recommended was "Exploitation and Management of Marine Resources of the IPFC region" and the symposium would consist of five main sessions as follows:

(i) the resources;

(ii) increased use of underexploited resources;

(iii) problems of conflict;

(iv) problems of over-capacity; and

(v) supporting action.

100. The Chairman of SCORRAD, in clarifying the recommendation, stated that while the scope of the subject might at first glance appear too wide, the most important sessions would be those on "problems of conflict" and "problems of over-capacity". The first session would be an introduction and the information available for the second session would, by implication, be limited. The fifth session would be in the nature of summing-up. As also stated in the SCORRAD report, all sessions would not require equal time and the symposium could be suitably structured to emphasize the important topics. He also suggested the use of well-researched "keynote" papers to serve as focal points for the third and fourth sessions.

101. The Commission felt that the subject of exploitation and management of marine resources could be appropriate, and that the major topics should perhaps be "problems of conflict" and "problems of over-capacity". In its view, however, the geographical coverage was too wide and ill-defined and should therefore be confined to Southeast Asia. Some delegations considered that it would be preferable to adopt a more positive approach and to take up the subject of development of fishing for underexploited resources, e.g., small pelagics. The Commission agreed that a small working group or steering committee should meet well in advance of the symposium to finalize the details.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

102. No other matters were considered by the Commission.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

103. Australia and the United States of America were unanimously elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

104. Bangladesh and Indonesia were unanimously elected as the other two members of the Executive Committee, in addition to the immediately-retired Chairman.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

105. The delegate of Australia indicated that he was not in a position to make a formal offer at this time, but he expressed the hope that it would be possible for his country at a later date to make an offer to host the twenty-second session. His statement was noted with appreciation by the Commission.

106. The exact date and place of the session will be decided by the Director-General of FAO in consultation with the Chairman and the authorities of the host country.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

107. The Report was adopted by the Commission on 15 December 1984.

APPENDIX A

List of Delegates and Observers

MEMBER GOVERNMENTS

AUSTRALIA

Mr A.C. Byrne
Assistant Secretary
External Relations Branch
Fisheries Division
Department of Primary Industry
Canberra ACT, Australia

BANGLADESH

Mr A.Q. Chowdhury
Director for Fisheries, Bangladesh
81 Kakrail Road
Dhaka 2, Bangladesh

Mr D.H.M. Muniruddin
Deputy Secretary
Fisheries and Livestock Division
Ministry of Agriculture
Dhaka 2, Bangladesh

BURMA

DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

FRANCE

Dr T. Boely
Fisheries Research Scientist
Office de la recherche scientifique
et technique outre-mer (ORSTOM)
Research Institute for Marine Fisheries
Jl. Kerapu 12
Jakarta, Indonesia

INDIA

INDONESIA

Mr Burhanuddin Lubis
Director of Production
Directorate-General of Fisheries
Department of Agriculture
Jl. Salemba Raya 16
Jakarta, Indonesia

Mr Damanhuri Sastrakusumah
Director of Planning
Directorate-General of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture
Jl. Salemba Raya 16
Jakarta, Indonesia

JAPAN

Mr K. Imamura
Director
Overseas Cooperation Division
Fisheries Agency
Chiyoda-ku, Kasumigaseki 1-2-1
Tokyo, Japan

Mr J. Morishita
International Affairs Division
Fisheries Agency
Chiyoda-ku, Kasumigaseki 1-2-1
Tokyo, Japan

Mr M. Ishijima
First Secretary
Embassy of Japan
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

KOREA, REP. OF

Mr Si-Moon, Kim
Director-General
Fisheries Administrative Bureau
National Fisheries Administration
5Ga Nam Dae Moon Ro, Chung-ku,
Seoul, Korea

Mr Young-Gyu Kim
Assistant Director
National Fisheries Research and Development
Agency
2Ga Nam Hang Dong Young Do Gu
Pusan, Korea

Mr Mean-Jhong, Kim
Vice-Consul and Fisheries Officer
Korean Consultate General
(Honolulu, Hawaii) P.O. Box 2596
Pago Pago, American Samoa,
USA

MALAYSIA

Y.M. Tengku Dato' Ubaidillah bin Abdul Kadir
Director-General of Fisheries
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Shahrom bin Haji Abdul Majid
Deputy Director-General of Fisheries
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Tan Cheng Kiat
Director
Extension Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Mazlan Jusoh
Director
Management and Conservation Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Shaari b. Sam Abdul Latiff
Director
Fisheries Research Institute
Glugor, Penang, Malaysia

Mr B. Balachandran
Director
Malaysian Fisheries Institute
Batu Maung
Penang, Malaysia

Mr Cheah Eng Kean
Senior Fisheries Officer
Planning and Development Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Chen Shih Hsie
Director
Technology Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Ms Ch'ng Kim Looi
Head
Management Unit
Management and Conservation Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Teo Chee Kwang
Director
Marine Fisheries Department
Kuching Sarawak
Malaysia

Mr Siow Kuan Tow
Senior Fisheries Officer
Extension and Training Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Rayner Stuel Galid
Senior Fisheries Officer
Department of Fisheries
Sabah, Malaysia

Ms Zuraidah Merican
Fisheries Officer
Planning and Development Branch
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Foo Ho Tar
Fisheries Officer
Fisheries Department
Sabah, Kota Kinabalu
Malaysia

Mr Yap Kon Shen
Fisheries Officer
Fisheries Department
Negeri Sabah
Malaysia

Mr Tan Cheng Eng
Planning Director
Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia
8th Floor Wisma PKNS
Jalan Raja Laut
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

MALAYSIA

Mr Abu Bakar bin Ali
Deputy Director of Marketing
Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia
8th Floor Wisma PKNS
Jalan Raja Laut
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mrs Ang Saw Aim
Deputy Director
Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia
8th Floor Wisma PKNS
Jalan Raja Laut
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Miss Hiswani bte Harun
Assistant Secretary
Commodity Section
Ministry of Agriculture
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Ernest Jayasuria
Assistant Secretary
International Unit
Ministry of Agriculture
Jalan Mahameru
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Professor Ishak bin Kechik
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
University Sains Malaysia
Penang, Malaysia

Dr Jahara Yahaya
Associate Professor
University of Malaya
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

NEPAL

NEW ZEALAND

PAKISTAN

PHILIPPINES

SRI LANKA

Mr Anton R. Atapattu
Director of Fisheries (Marine)
Ministry of Fisheries
Maligawatte Secretariat
Colombo 10, Sri Lanka

Mr C. Fernando
Counsellor
Embassy of Sri Lanka
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

THAILAND

Dr Plodprasop Suraswadi
Deputy Director-General
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Rajadamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Dr Kitjor Jaiyen
Director, Office of Planning and Special Projects
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Rajadamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Mr Yudh Hansopa
Senior Fisheries Officer
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Rajadamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Mrs Kwunruethai Thanomkiat
Fisheries Biologist
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Rajadamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

UNITED KINGDOM

Mr John Stoneman
Principal Fisheries Adviser
Overseas Development Administration
Eland House, Stag Place
London SWIE 5DH, United Kingdom

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr Jacob Walles
Office of Fisheries Affairs
Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
Department of State
Washington D.C., USA

Mr R.S. Shomura
Director
Honolulu Laboratory
Southwest Fisheries Centre
National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA)
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812
USA

VIETNAM

REPRESENTATIVES FROM UNITED NATIONS BODIES

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mr W.M.E. Ripley
Fishery Advisor
UNDP
New York, USA

OBSERVERS FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

Dr James Joseph
Director of Investigations
IATTC
c/o Scripps Institute of Oceanography
La Jolla, California 12093, USA

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC)

Mr K. Inoue
Deputy Secretary General
Liaison Officer for the Secretariat and Training Department
SEAFDEC
956 Olympia Building, 4th Floor
Rama IV Road
Bangkok 10500, Thailand

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education (SEAMEO)

Dr Joko Purwanto
Aquatic Fisheries Ecologist
BIOTROP Southeast Asian Regional Center for Tropical Biology
Jl. Tajur km 6, P.O. Box 17
Bogor, Indonesia

FAO FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

Headquarters

Mr J.E. Carroz
Assistant Director-General
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Dr S. Chikuni
Fishery Resources Officer (Pacific)
Marine Resources Service
Fishery Resources and Environment Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Mr F.T. Christy
Senior Fishery Planning Officer
(Asia and the Pacific)
Development Planning Service
Fishery Policy and Planning Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Mr A.P. Isarankura
Senior Project Operations Officer
(Asia and Pacific)
Fishery Operations Service
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Mr J. Marcille
Fishery Resources Officer
Marine Resources Service
Fishery Resources and Environment Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Mr M. Savini
International Institutional Officer
International Institutions and Liaison Unit
Fishery Policy and Planning Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Dr A. Sribhibhadh
Chief, Fish Utilization and Marketing Service
Fishery Industries Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

FAO Regional Office

Mr V.L.C. Pieterz
Regional Fisheries Officer
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Mr I. Csavas
Regional Aquaculture Officer
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Field

Mr E. Hempel
Marketing Expert
Officer in Charge
INFOFISH
P.O. Box 899
Kuala Lumpur 01-02, Malaysia

Mr L.O. Engvall
Project Manager
FAO/SIDA Development of Small-scale
Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal
P.O. Box 1054, Madras 600-018
India

Mr T. Sakurai
Statistician
Indo-Pacific Tuna Programme
P.O. Box 2004
Colombo, Sri Lanka

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION Y.M. Tengku Dato' Ubaidillah bin Abdul Kadir

SECRETARIAT

HOST GOVERNMENT

Liaison Officer	Mr Husain bin Hj. Anjang Pulau Abdullah Director of Administration and Finance	Fisheries Department Ministry of Agriculture Jalan Mahameru Kuala Lumpur, 10-02 Malaysia
	Ms Razidah bte Budin	"
	Ms Zuraidah bte Osman Merican	"
	Ms Khatijah bte Hj. Noordin	"
	Mr Zakaria bin Ismail	"
	Mr Zainal Abidin bin Othman	"
	Mr Mohd. Saleh bin Mohd. Said	"
	Mr Chong Yoke Wai	"
	Mr Nadarajah a/l Sinniah	"
	Mr Roslan bin Mohamad	"
	Mr Alias s/o Daniel	"
	Mr Razak bin Shaari	"
	Mr Ghazali Ho	International Convention Secretariat Prime Minister's Department 15th Floor, Plaza Pekeliling Jalan Tun Razak Kuala Lumpur
	Mr R. Krishnasamy	"
	Mr C.T. Chong	"
	Ms Pauzan bte Abd. Majid	"
	Mr Kamaruddin Othman	"
	Mr S.V. Lingam	"

FAO SECRETARIAT

SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION Mr V.L.C. Pietersz

Meeting Officer Miss Agnes Jiannee
Technical Assistant (Fisheries)
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Administrative Assistant

Miss Luisa Almagiá
Administrative Assistant
Fisheries Department
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Secretaries

Mrs Chuangchan Sirithaporn
Fisheries Section
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Miss Suntharee Suthapong
Fisheries Section
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Mrs Victoria Suntonvipart
Fisheries Section
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

INTERPRETERS

Mr Chedly Bekalti
Interpretation Branch
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Mr Patrick Alexis Bosman-Delzons
Sri Aurobindo Ashram
Sri Aurobindo Marg.
New Delhi, India 110016

Miss Maria-Teresa de Landa
Interpretation Branch
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

Mrs Gil Ridgway
19 Jalan Girdle
Bukit Tunku
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mrs Gerda Whyte
Interpretation Branch
FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

APPENDIX B

Agenda

Agenda item		Relevant documents
1	Opening of the session	IPFC/84/1
2	Adoption of the agenda and arrangements for the session	IPFC/84/1 IPFC/84/Inf.1
3	Inter-sessional report of the IPFC Executive Committee	IPFC/84/2
4	Review of major fisheries issues in the region	IPFC/84/3 IPFC/84/4
	(a) Marine	IPFC/84/Inf.8
	(b) Tuna	IPFC/84/5 IPFC/84/16 IPFC/84/17 IPFC/84/18 IPFC/84/Inf.7
	(c) Inland	IPFC/84/6 IPFC/84/Inf.3 IPFC/84/Inf.4 IPFC/84/Inf.5
	(d) Aquaculture	IPFC/84/7
	(e) Fish utilization and marketing	IPFC/84/8 IPFC/84/9
5	Proposals for future inter-sessional activities	IPFC/84/10 IPFC/84/Inf.9
6	Regional fishery development activities, with particular reference to the follow up to the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development	IPFC/84/11 IPFC/84/12 IPFC/84/13
7	Special issues arising from the Twentieth Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission	
	(a) Matters related to the functions and responsibilities of IPFC	IPFC/84/15
	(b) Relationship with the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission	IPFC/84/14
	(c) Subjects for symposia at future sessions	IPFC/84/4
8	Any other matters	
9	Election of officers	
10	Date and place of the Twenty-Second Session	
11	Adoption of the Report	

APPENDIX C

List of Documents

IPFC/84/	1	Annotated provisional agenda and timetable
	2	Report of the Sixty-first Session of the IPFC Executive Committee, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10-11 October 1984
	3	Issues in marine fisheries development and management
	4	Report of the Fourth Session of the IPFC Standing Committee on Resources Research and Development (SCORRAD), Jakarta, Indonesia, 23-29 August 1984
	5	Current trends in tuna fisheries in the Western Pacific
	6	Report of the Second Session of the IPFC Working Party on Inland Fisheries, New Delhi, India, 23-27 January 1984
	7	Report of the Sixth Session of the IPFC Working Party on Aquaculture, New Delhi, India, 19-22 January 1984
	8	Marketing information and advisory services for fish products in the Asian and Pacific region
	9	Report of the Sixth Session of the IPFC Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing,Melbourne, Australia, 23-26 October 1984
	10	Proposed future activities of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission
	11	Report of the Third Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea, Semarang, Indonesia, 27-28 July 1983
	12	Report of the Fourth Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6-8 December 1984
	13	Summary of decisions of the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development and their implications for the Indo-Pacific region
	14	Cooperation with other bodies dealing with fisheries in the Indo-Pacific region
	15	Matters related to the functions and responsibilities of IPFC
	16	Report of the *ad hoc* Workshop on Tuna Stock Assessment,Jakarta, Indonesia, 20-22 August 1984
IPFC/84/16A		Report on the expert consultation on establishing and maintaining a regional data base for tuna fisheries in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, Tokyo, Japan, 13-14 March 1984
	17	Report on the activities of Tuna Management in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, project and work plan for 1985 (INT/81/034)
	18	International cooperation in tuna fisheries
IPFC/84/Inf.1	Rev.1	List of documents
	2	List of participants
	3	Inland fisheries of Southeast Asia

IPFC/84/Inf. 4 Report of The third Advisory Committee Meeting of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia (NACA), Wuxi, China, 29 October 1983

5 Report of the tripartite review of project RAS/76/003 Establishment of a Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia (NACA), Wuxi, China, 29 October 1983

6 Report of the Second Session of the IOFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal, Covelong, India, 22-24 August 1983

7 Statistics of the tuna fisheries in the Indo-Pacific Region

7a Major findings from the Indo-Pacific historical tuna fishery data summary by T.Sakurai

8 Report of the forum to improve communication between fisheries scientists and administrators, Bangkok, Thailand, 29 November - 3 December 1983

9 Structure of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission and directory of its subsidiary bodies

10 Recent development of industrial tuna fishing by pole and line and purse seine in the Indian Ocean

11 Recent trends of longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (not available at the session)

12 Follow-up to the recommendations and decisions of the Twentieth Session of IPFC

13 Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission - Technical support provided by FAO for the Indo-Pacific Region

14 Interim Report - IPTP progress to date and options for the future

APPENDIX D

Address of welcome by Mr Tengku Dato' Ubaidillah
Chairman of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC)

Honourable Deputy Minister of Agriculture,

The Assistant Director-General of FAO, Mr J.E. Carroz,

The Secretary-General, Ministry of Agriculture,

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Observers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Commission I would like to thank the Honourable The Deputy Minister of Agriculture for this presence here this morning. To all delegates and observers attending this 21st session of IPFC as well as to all FAO officials, may I take this opportunity to welcome you all to Malaysia. I hope all of you will enjoy your short stay here. To our distinguished guests who have been able to give us some of their time at this function, may I extend IPFC's sincere appreciation and thanks.

IPFC's sessions take place once in two years. It is a gathering of fisheries officials from member countries and from regional and international organisations with the main objective of finding solutions to fisheries problems. IPFC, through its various committees and working parties of experts, has a challenging task of providing advice to member countries on the very complex issue of fishery resource management, both in already heavily exploited coastal fisheries as well as in new fisheries of the exclusive economic zones. Similarly IPFC is also providing advice to members on other areas of fisheries development such as aquaculture, inland fisheries, statistics, fish processing technology and marketing.

The last two years since the 20th Session of IPFC in Indonesia, have seen a lot of activities accomplished. Almost all the decisions and recommendations made at the 20th Session have been carried out. The Executive Committee of IPFC which met here in Kuala Lumpur in October this year expressed satisfaction with the progress. I would like to express IPFC's gratitude and appreciation to FAO and the IPFC Secretariat for their dedication to the objectives of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission.

This 21st session of IPFC will also have a special task related to the outcome of the FAO World Fisheries Conference which was recently held in Rome. This is the first time that a World Fisheries Conference has been held to discuss and endorse strategies for fisheries development and management including associated action programmes. This IPFC session will have to study the implications of such strategies and action programmes in its area of competence. Follow up actions would have to be proposed for this region. At this point I would like to add that we owe a great deal to Mr J.E. Carroz, in his capacity as the Secretary-General of the World Fisheries Conference for his great contribution to the success of the Conference. Now that he is the new Assistant Director-General of the FAO Fisheries Department, he has the unique opportunity to ensure implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the Conference. As Chairman of IPFC, I can assure him that we as a group in this region - being the oldest regional fisheries body (already 36 years in existence) - will give Mr Carroz all the support and cooperation to ensure that fishermen and fishing communities and fish farmers in this region will benefit from these follow up actions.

IPFC is the umbrella body for various committees and, in line with changing fisheries situations, it is necessary for IPFC to study ways and means to make these committees more effective in playing their roles. This, I believe, will be another challenging task for the present IPFC Session.

Lastly, I am confident that we can all come up with definite programmes of action for the next two years that can be of benefit to the fisheries development and management in our Indo-Pacific region.

Thank you.

APPENDIX E

Statement of Mr J.E. Carroz, Assistant Director-General, (Fisheries Department)

Honourable Deputy Minister,
Mr Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates and Observers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a privilege and an honour for me to participate in this Twenty-first Session of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Commission. I welcome the opportunity to visit Kuala Lumpur and renew my acquaintance with fisheries colleagues working in this part of the world which is close to my heart. I bring with me the warm greetings of Mr Edouard Saouma, the Director-General of FAO, and his sincere good wishes for a fruitful meeting. He has also asked me to express FAO's special appreciation to you, Honourable Minister, and to the Government of Malaysia for the kind invitation to hold the present session of the Commission in your federal capital.

Mr Chairman, since the last session of the Commission, held in Bali in November 1982, there have been significant developments in world fisheries. As we all know, the long and arduous work of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea finally culminated, in December 1982, in the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, with the principle of exclusive economic zones a major feature. This Convention recognizes a new situation as far as fisheries are concerned.

In order to help translate into practical solutions the innovative and far-reaching concepts of the new regime of the oceans, FAO organized a World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development in Rome from 27 June to 6 July of this year.

While the subject of the World Fisheries Conference will be discussed in more detail under item 6 of your agenda, I should like to report briefly on the major accomplishments of the Conference.

The World Fisheries Conference endorsed a Strategy for fisheries Management and Development which contains principles and guidelines for consideration by governments and organizations when planning and implementing fisheries policies and programmes. It also approved five Programmes of Action designed to assist developing countries, mostly at regional and sub-regional levels, to increase their fish production and improve their individual and collective self-reliance in fisheries. These Programmes provide, for the first time, a comprehensive and coherent framework for international development assistance in the field of fisheries by multilateral and bilateral donors, based on needs of developing countries and policies of donors.

Mr Chairman, the recent session of the FAO Council agreed that the implementation of the Strategy and of the Programmes of Action would require adjustment of FAO activities in fisheries under both the Regular Programme and the Field Programme. In response to the Council's directives, I am pleased to inform this Commission that the Regular Programme work plans of the Fisheries Department of FAO for 1985 have already been adapted to ensure, within approved resource levels, the provision of technical advice and support needed for the planning and implementation of the Programmes of Action. The Director-General has also decided to take into account the results of the World Fisheries Conference when formulating proposals for the Programme of Work and Budget for 1986-87. Furthermore, FAO has already initiated a series of negotiations with various bilateral and multilateral donor agencies and financing institutions that have indicated their willingness to cooperate in the implementation of the Programmes.

In order to strengthen fisheries activities in the Indo-Pacific region, FAO has already apportioned part of its Regular Programme budget for the present biennium to the financing of some of the key activities envisaged by this Commission at its last session. These include holding seminars and workshops pertaining to specific areas of fisheries development

and management, such as resource appraisal, fishery statistics, fisheries development planning, fish utilization and marketing. We have also envisaged further activities for the region which will be implemented during the next biennium. As requested by the sixty-first session of the Executive Committee of this Commission, the activities planned or envisaged under the Regular Programme for the region are summarized in an information note submitted to the present session of the Commission.

We have also adjusted regional and sub-regional fisheries projects relevant to the Indo-Pacific region in the framework of the five Programmes of Action. The Commission will have the opportunity to review these projects under item 6 of the agenda.

With your permission, Mr Chairman, I would like to turn now to the substantive items of your agenda which require your special attention.

Under item 4(a), you will consider the state of exploitation of marine fish stocks in the region, with special reference to shared stocks. Our appraisal indicates that the inshore and near-shore fishery resources in the tropical zones, such as demersal fish and shrimps of the region, have been intensely fished, while offshore resources, such as small pelagic fish and cephalopods, are still underexploited.

The total annual catch of the marine fishery resources in the Indo-Pacific region has been estimated at 7 million tons; that is approximately ten percent of the world catch. However, a far greater catch would be possible if suitable management schemes - conservation of fully exploited resources on the one hand, and the development of underexploited resources on the other - were applied to these resources.

With regard to shrimp resources, I should like to refer to the FAO/Australia Workshop on the Management of Tropical Shrimp Fisheries which was held in Queensland, Australia, during October/November of this year. The management of shrimp fisheries is probably the most pressing problem in this region, and the workshop provided a reappraisal of management options, in particular the significant increase in value that can be realized by delaying fishing activities until the shrimp have reached a certain size. The Workshop also noted the interdependence between industrial and small-scale shrimp fisheries and presented a bio-economic model as an aid to governments in determining appropriate national policies for these fisheries. I should like to express our appreciation to the Government of Australia for their timely initiative and generous support.

Under item 4(b) dealing with tuna, the Commission is invited to consider the Report of the *Ad Hoc* Workshop on Tuna Stock Assessment which was held in August of this year in Jakarta. It will note that larger tunas and billfishes in the Indo-Pacific region have been nearly or fully exploited. No substantial greater catches are therefore expected. However, there is still ample room for further expansion of little tuna and skipjack fisheries.

In this connection, the Commission will have the opportunity to discuss the problems related to the collection and dissemination of tuna statistics and to reactivate its special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna.

With respect to items 4(c) and 4(d), the IPFC Working Parties on Inland Fisheries and on Aquaculture, when meeting in New Delhi in January of this year, made several concrete recommendations concerning their future activities. The Commission may wish to consider assigning priorities to these proposals. In aquaculture, the presence of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia has helped to foster collaboration in research and technical cooperation between developing countries in the region. The problem of disease outbreaks, which is common to a number of countries, has also served to emphasize the need for regional collaboration. In this connection, I am pleased to inform the Commission that a TCP regional project on fish diseases in Southeast Asia has now been formulated and approved in principle by FAO, subject to requests from at least three countries in the region. Two countries, Burma and Thailand, have already submitted their requests.

In the area of inland capture fisheries, there is also an enhanced interest in problems shared by several countries: for example, the biology of some migratory species such as *Hilsa*; the management of lake and reservoirs, including stocking and introduction of fish, and weed control; lastly, the management of mangrove and brackish water resources and water quality.

Another major issue of great interest in the region, particularly to those countries that export fishery products, is item 4(e) - fish utilization and marketing. Under this item, special mention should be made of the regional fish marketing information service for the Asia and Pacific region, INFOFISH. This project is well on the way to financial autonomy but we are grateful that UNDP has now agreed to fund some of the technical advisory activities of the project, and we also greatly appreciate the support provided by Malaysia. This is a most crucial area because the long-term position of the fish exporting industry in the region will depend on assuring a high quality level of the products and on diversifying production. Some exporting countries in the region are experiencing frequent rejections of their products by importing countries, caused mainly by the lack of adequate quality control standards. INFOFISH has made a thorough review of quality control and inspection systems for fish products in member countries and identified various areas for closer collaboration in this field among countries. Following a suggestion of the sixth session of the IPFC Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing, which met in Melbourne last October, we are proposing to convene a technical consultation to further examine such possibilities.

The last substantive issue which needs your special attention is regional fisheries development activities. This will be discussed under agenda item 6.

Mr Chairman, FAO has been executing several global and regional fisheries projects funded by UNDP and bilateral donor agencies, notably Australia, Japan, Norway and Sweden, for the benefit of countries in the Indo-Pacific region. Special mention should be made of global projects such as the UNDP-funded projects on the survey and identification of world marine fish resources and the fisheries vessels pool agreement. These projects will continue to assist governments in obtaining essential data and information for their fisheries development planning.

FAO attaches importance to the strengthening of regional and sub-regional collaboration in fisheries management and development by providing technical support to regional fishery bodies. Your Commission will have the opportunity to review the comments and recommendations of the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea regarding FAO's proposal for the continuation of the technical support to the Committee beyond 1984.

As the UNDP-funded project on Tuna Management in the Indian and Pacific Oceans and the project funded by Japan on the Investigation of Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Small Tuna Resources, will terminate in 1985, FAO is submitting for the Commission's consideration at this session a project proposal to continue these activities beyond 1985.

The other important regional projects relevant to the region are INFOFISH, financed by Norway and based here in Kuala Lumpur; the FAO/UNDP Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia, based in Bangkok; the Swedish-funded project on the Development of Small-scale Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal, based in Madras and partly in Colombo; and the FAO/UNDP project Regional Fisheries Coordinator for the South Pacific.

As regards the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia, the Commission may note that the UNDP funding support will terminate at the end of 1984. The further funding of the project depends on the recommendations of a joint UNDP/FAO review mission which has recently completed its task.

With respect to the project Regional Fisheries Coordinator for the South Pacific, a draft project document for the next phase has been prepared, covering a five-year period (1985-89) with increased budget and staffing. This includes additional support for the Forum Fisheries Agency.

The Bay of Bengal Project is scheduled to terminate in June 1985. However, the Swedish authorities have given us to understand informally that the project will continue to receive the same level of financial support from Sweden for the period July 1985 to December 1986.

Mr Chairman, other activities which should also be mentioned are the cooperative research network in fish processing technology in the IPFC area funded by Australia and the training course in acoustic surveys and stock assessment, including the newly-approved

project on Assistance and Training in Handling Acoustic Equipment under a Norway-funded programme. Furthermore, we hope that the ASEAN/UNDP/FAO Regional Project on Coastal Small-scale Fisheries Development will become operational in 1985.

Lastly, I should like to make special reference to the role of the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in assisting countries in the region in various aspects of fisheries management and development. Under the leadership and guidance of Mr Puri, the Regional Office complements very effectively the activities of Headquarters.

With these remarks, Mr Chairman, I should like to conclude my statement by again thanking the Honourable Minister and the Government of Malaysia, on behalf of the participants and the Secretariat, for your generous hospitality and the excellent facilities provided for our session. I wish you all a successful and fruitful meeting.

APPENDIX F

Inaugural address by Dr Goh Cheng Teik, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Malaysia

The Federation of Malaysia is deeply honoured to host this international conference on fisheries in the Indo-Pacific region. May I join the Conference Chairman who is also the Malaysian Director-General of Fisheries, in wishing you Selamat Datang ke Malaysia (Welcome to Malaysia).

The Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission has a long history. It was founded way back in 1948 when large parts of the Asiatic continent were still under colonial rule. In terms of age, the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission is nearly as old as the United Nations Organization.

Over the years, IPFC has evolved - from an advisory council into an action-oriented commission. It has established many standing committees and working parties, sponsored numerous workshops, seminars, symposia and conferences and published countless memoranda and reports.

I cannot pretend to be an expert in fisheries but I am impressed by the range of subjects covered by IPFC. You have given meticulous attention to almost everything fishy under the sun, including oceanic fisheries, coastal fisheries, demersal fishing, pelagic fishing, inland fisheries and aquaculture, fish handling and processing and fish marketing. Let me congratulate your thirty-six-year-old commission on the excellent work you have done so far.

At this Twenty-first Session held here in Kuala Lumpur, IPFC is focussing on the exploitation and management of marine resources of the IPFC region. This is a wise decision because many IPFC countries are facing a common problem, namely, the over-exploitation of their coastal marine resources by their own fishermen.

In Malaysia, the authorities have reacted to this over-exploitation of inshore fishery resources by imposing controls - by limiting the net licences issued, by restricting access to inshore fishing grounds and by insisting on heavy penalties for violators of the law. Needless to say, those fishermen affected by such curbs resent the actions of government.

Taking strong action to check against over-exploitation of inshore marine resources is an unpleasant duty which the authorities have to perform but the Malaysian Government is not negative in its outlook. It realizes that fishermen are human beings. They have dependents who have to be housed, clothed and fed. On the contrary, the Malaysian Government believes in a positive approach to the solution of this problem. If a source of income is closed, alternative sources of income should be opened. That is why the Malaysian Government is urging those fishermen who are obliged to abandon inshore fisheries, to venture into offshore fishing to branch into aquaculture or to enter into downstream activities like fish preservation and processing.

Here is where IPFC can assist Malaysia and other Indo-Pacific nations which are in a similar predicament. Firstly, identify for us - with the help of satellite remote sensing or survey vessels - the under-exploited offshore marine resources so that we can persuade our inshore fishermen to go there and fish for all kinds of fish, including sardines and tuna, as well as for squids, octopuses and the like. Secondly, demonstrate to us how aquaculture can be carried out successfully so that we can teach our fishermen to culture freshwater, brackishwater and marine fishes, freshwater and marine prawns, oysters, mussles and so on. Thirdly, train us in fish technology so that we can instruct our fishermen in the modern techniques of fish preservation and processing.

Malaysia has access to the same seas as Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand but Malaysia's catch in 1982 was only 666 000 tons compared with Philippines' 1 259 000 tons, Indonesia's 1 490 000 tons and Thailand's 1 749 000 tons. There are rich fishery resources in the Andaman Sea, the South China Sea and the Sulu Sea which Malaysian fishermen can exploit.

In the field of aquaculture, there are at least 307 469 hectares of freshwater areas and 499 764 hectares of brackishwater areas which are suitable for aquaculture but have not yet been exploited. Rivers like Sungai Pahang, Sungai Perak, Rajang, Batang Lupan, Baram, Limbang and Kinabatangan and reservoirs like Temenggor, Pedu, Muda, Bukit Merah and Chenderoh can support large-scale commercial operations.

In the realm of fish processing, the existing canning factories in Malaysia are crying out for sardines, tuna, prawns and other raw materials for canning. There is scope for inshore fishermen who are interested in fish processing to invest in new factories, provided supplies of raw ingredients from offshore fisheries and aquaculture are forthcoming in the future.

I am pleased to note that many officials from Malaysia's Department of Fisheries, the Fishery Development Board (Majuikan) and the Ministry of Agriculture are attending this conference. I trust they will study the papers carefully, listen to the foreign experts attentively and jot down ideas and suggestions which can be beneficial to Malaysian fishermen.

In closing, let me wish you an interesting and fruitful conference. IPFC has grown from a purely advisory council into an action-oriented commission with definite programmes. Let me advise you to be more action-oriented. Above all, be constantly fishermen-oriented! IPFC exists for fishermen. Your success or failure will not rest on how frequent your seminars are or how prolific your publication is. In the final analysis, you will be judged by your ability or inability to influence the living standards of fishermen in the Indo-Pacific region.

And now I have great pleasure in declaring the IPFC Conference open.

APPENDIX G

Summary of Main Recommendations

Review of Major Fisheries in the Region

(a) Marine

1. Study in detail construction of artificial reefs (para. 16(i)).

2. Provide technical assistance for implementation of suitable regulatory measures (para. 16(ii)).

3. Identify areas or specific communities suitable for implementation of pilot management schemes (para. 19).

4. Organize a workshop on management of multispecies fisheries (para. 23).

(b) Tuna

1. Extend external support for the project Tuna Management in the Indian and Pacific Oceans (IPTP) until 1987, revise it and delimit areas to include the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia (para. 36).

2. The Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna should meet before next session of Commission (para. 44).

3. Discontinue practice of holding joint meetings of the Tuna Committees of IOFC and IPFC (para. 44).

(c) Inland Fisheries

1. Endorse the priorities recommended by the Working Parties on Inland Fisheries (para. 56).

2. Topic for next joint meeting of the Working Parties on Inland Fisheries and on Aquaculture should be the management of coastal lagoons and mangrove areas (par. 57).

(d) Aquaculture

1. Endorse the priorities recommended by the Working Party on Aquaculture (para. 63 and 64).

(e) Fish Utilization and Marketing

1. Endorse the proposal to convene a Conference of Plenipotentiaries to adopt an Agreement for the Establishment of an Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Advisory Services for fishery products in the Asia and Pacific region (INFOFISH) (para. 69).

2. Pay increased attention to improving the quality of fish (para. 76).

3. Expand the present long-term work programme of the Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing to include more effort on quality control and inspection (para. 76).

4. Hold a Consultation on Fish Technology and Quality Assurance (para. 78).

Proposals for Future Inter-sessional Activities

1. Abolish the IPFC/IOFC Joint Working Party of Experts on Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Fishery Statistics after the May 1985 session (para. 80).

2. Abolish the IPFC Working Party of Experts on Central and Western Pacific Skipjack (para. 81).

3. The IPFC Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna to consider the establishment of a group to carry out stock assessment work on tuna (para. 82).

Regional Fishery Development Activities with Particular Reference to the Follow-up to the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development

1. Expand activities of the programmes to include advice on monitoring, control and surveillance, training of scientists and administrators, assistance in the development of floodplain fisheries and aquaculture (para. 89).

2. Make plans for the research vessel DR FRIDTJOF NANSEN to operate in the region in 1986 (para. 89).

3. Include a component for the South China Sea in the Programme of Action No. II (para. 89).

Special Issues Arising from the Twentieth Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission

(a) Matters Related to the Functions and Responsibilities of IPFC

1. Bring up the question of the "objection procedure" at a later session (para. 94).

(b) Subject for Symposia at Future Sessions

1. Subject for the Symposium to be held in conjunction with the Twenty-second Session of IPFC will be "Exploitation and Management of Marine Resources of the IPFC Region" (para. 99).

Election of Officers

1. Members of the Executive Committee:

Australia	- Chairman
United States of America	- Vice-Chairman (para. 103)
Bangladesh	- Member
Indonesia	- Member
Malaysia	- Member (para. 104).

Date and Place of Twenty-second Session

Tentatively February 1987 in Australia (para. 105).

M-40
ISBN 92-5-102262-3